Passengers of Suburban Trains

955. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers who travelled in suburban trains (both Central and Western Railways) in the years 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87 in Bombay;

(b) the number of trains that have run in above period year-wise; and

(c) the action Government propose to reduce overcrowding in suburban trains in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) No. of passengers travelled in subur ban trains

(Figures in Thousands)

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Central Railway	659,815	685,555	718,439
Western Railway	711,788	698.214	689,199
TOTAL	1,371,603	1,383,769	1,407,638

(b) Average number of Suburban Trains runs Daily

(In units)

Central Railway	827	865	900
Western Railway	857	851	880
TOTAL	1,684	1,716	1,780

(c) Increase in the number of EMU suburban trains introduction of high density rakes and reduction in headway between successive trains are some of the steps being taken.

Monkey Bridge on River Yamuna

956. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a multi-crore scheme for coping with the massive inrease in vehicular traffic in the capital, and augmenting the Monkey Bridge on the river Yamuna has been drawn up;

(b) if so, what are the details and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the decisions taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) There are a few proposals for coping with the massive increase in vehicular traffic over river Yamuna in the capital, which include provision of an eight lane bridge near Inter State Bus Terminal at an estimated cost of about Rs. 37 crores. Further a proposal for widening the ITO bridge is at the planning stage. There is no 'Monkey Bridge' on the river Yamuna. There is, however, a 'Monkey Bridge'

over Ring Road at Yamuna Bazar. Presently there is no proposal for widening or rehabilitation of this bridge.

Modernisation Programme to phase out Steam Engines

957. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to phase out steam engines by 2000 AD and launch a modernisation programme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what is the number of steam locomotive workshops that are presently working in the country and the total number of employees in them; and

(c) whether due to increase in the number of diesel locos in the Railways the machinery is being replaced and if so, the cost of modernisation programme for each workshop and by when the work would be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. By the year 2000 AD it is planned that all trains will be operated either by Electric or Diesel Locomotives. As a part of modernisation programme, higher horsepower electric and diesel locomotives incorporating latest technology are to be introduced. These locomotives will enable attainment of higher speeds of passenger and freight trains, better availability and reliability of locos and reduction of energy consumption.

(b) There are 12 workshops (BG & MG) presently engaged in the work of repairs of steam locomotives. The approximate total number of staff employed in these workshops in 58,000. However, these workshops are undertaking a number of other repairs and manufacturing activities also including repairs of diesel and electric locomotives and also coaches and wagons.

(c) The programme of modernisation of Workshops caters for meeting the repair requirements of increased Rolling Stock fleet and locomotives including diesel, locomotivs. This programme has been taken up in Phases and Phase-I covering modernisation of Matunga, Kanchrapara, Kharagpur and Lower Parel Workshops has since been completed. Phase II of the project is currently in progress covering 6 more workshops, details of which are indicated below:—

Name of the Workshop	Estimated cost of Modernisation (In crores of Rs.)	Likely date of completion
1. Parel	19 06	31-3-90
2. Liluah	15.38	31-3-90
3. Jagadhri	32.68	31-3-90
4. Golden Rock	23.05	31-3-90
5. Kharagpur (Phase II)	30.02	31.3 90
6. Ajmer	23.52	31-3-90

WHO Regional Seminar on Smoking

958. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a WHO Regional Seminar on smoking and health was organised in 1984 at Kathmandu and if so, the action plan recommended; and

(b) whether these recommendations/guidelines/action plan was accepted by the Government of India specially for launching and carrying out long term programmes for control of smoking and if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The WHO Regional Seminar on Smoking and Health held in March 1984 at Kathmandu urged the member-countries to provide further impetus to ongoing smoking control activities and to provide financial and other support to anti-smoking activities.